

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 199079

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TAGS: ASEC, SREF, UR, US, (MITROKHINA, YELENA ALEKSANDROVNA)

SUBJECT: SOVIET EMBASSY PROTEST NOTE ABOUT DEFECTION CASE

REF: STATE 198332

1. "FULL TEXT OF SOVIET EMBASSY'S PROTEST NOTE NO. 56 OF
AUGUST 7 ABOUT MITROKHINA CASE FOLLOWS:
2. "THE EMBASSY OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS CALLS THE ATTENTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE FOLLOWING.
3. "ON AUGUST 2, 1978, YELENA ALEKSANDROVNA MITROKHINA,
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THE WIFE OF THE FIRST SECRETARY OF THE EMBASSY, AND HER
TWO YOUNG CHILDREN (KRISTINA--THREE YEARS OLD, AND
KONSTANTIN--ONE YEAR OLD) DISAPPEARED, UNDER VERY UNUSUAL
CIRCUMSTANCES, FROM THEIR APARTMENT IN ARLINGTON,
VIRGINIA.

4. "IN YE. A. MITROKHINA'S LETTER TO HER HUSBAND AND IN

HER LETTER TO U.S.S.R. AMBASSADOR A.F. DOBRYNIN, WHICH THE EMBASSY RECEIVED THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, IT IS ASSERTED THAT MITROKHINA APPEALED TO U.S. AUTHORITIES TO GRANT HER AND HER CHILDREN THE RIGHT TO LIVE IN THE U.S.

5. "AT THE SAME TIME, IT IS BECOMING EVIDENT THAT THE DEPARTURE OF YE. A. MITROKHINA WITH HER CHILDREN FROM HER HOME AND HUSBAND WAS BY NO MEANS AN INDEPENDENT DECISION ON HER PART, BUT WAS THE CONSEQUENCE OF THE DIRECT AND PURPOSEFUL ACTIONS OF THE U.S. SPECIAL SERVICES, WHICH WERE UNDERTAKEN WITH A VIEW TO PERSUADING HER NOT TO RETURN TO THE U.S.S.R.

6. "IN THIS CONNECTION, IT IS CHARACTERISTIC THAT DURING YE. A. MITROKHINA'S SHORT MEETING WITH HER HUSBAND ON AUGUST 2, 1978 NEAR THEIR HOME, SHE WAS CLOSELY SURROUNDED BY NO LESS THAN SIX SPECIAL SERVICES EMPLOYEES AND THAT AUTOMOBILES, IN WHICH THERE WERE STILL MORE OF THESE PEOPLE, WERE STATIONED NEARBY. THE CHILDREN WERE NOT WITH YE. A. MITROKHINA.

7. "OF COURSE, UNDER THESE CONDITIONS THERE COULD BE NO FRANK CONVERSATION BETWEEN HUSBAND AND WIFE AND, MOREOVER, THE LATTER OPENLY TOLD HER HUSBAND, IN RESPONSE TO HIS SUGGESTION THAT THEY GO TO THEIR HOME AND TALK THERE, CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT THE PERSONS WHO WERE THEN SURROUNDING HER WOULD NOT ALLOW HER TO DO SO.

8. "THE EMBASSY ALSO CONSIDERS IT NECESSARY TO DRAW THE ATTENTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO THE FACT THAT DURING L.N. MITROKHIN'S CONVERSATION WITH HIS WIFE, ONE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE U.S. SPECIAL SERVICES OPENLY MADE A PROVOCATIVE PROPOSAL TO HIM THAT HE BETRAY HIS HOMELAND, PROMISING, IN THIS CONNECTION, TO PROVIDE HIM WITH WORK AND MATERIAL ASSISTANCE IN THE U.S.

9. "IN CONNECTION WITH THE ABOVE, THE EMBASSY LODGES A RESOLUTE PROTEST WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE CONCERNING THE FLAGRANT PROVOCATION OF THE U.S. SPECIAL SERVICES WITH RESPECT TO L.N. MITROKHIN, THE FIRST SECRETARY OF THE EMBASSY, AND HIS FAMILY. CONSIDERING THAT L.N. MITROKHIN'S WIFE, AS IS APPARENT, IS NOT ACTING OR SPEAKING FREELY, THE EMBASSY DEMANDS AN IMMEDIATE MEETING OF THE EMBASSY'S CONSULAR REPRESENTATIVES WITH HER.

10. "THE EMBASSY DRAWS THE ATTENTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO THE FACT THAT THE U.S. SPECIAL SERVICES ARE

ALSO DETAINING L.N. MITROKIN'S YOUNG CHILDREN. PROCEEDING FROM THE PREMISE THAT U.S. AUTHORITIES HAVE NO RIGHT WHATSOEVER TO UNILATERALLY DEPRIVE THEM OF THEIR FATHER AND HOMELAND, THE EMBASSY FIRMLY SUPPORTS L.N. MITROKHIN'S DEMAND THAT THEY BE RETURNED TO HIM.

11. THE EMBASSY CONSIDERS THE INCIDENT INVOLVING THE FAMILY OF L.N. MITROKHIN TO BE YET ANOTHER LINK IN THE CHAIN OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE U.S. SPECIAL SERVICES WITH RESPECT TO EMPLOYEES OF OFFICIAL SOVIET MISSIONS IN THE U.S. FOR PURPOSES WHICH ARE HOSTILE TO THE SOVIET UNION AND DEMANDS THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE TAKE APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO PUT AN END TO SUCH ACTIVITY WHICH CANNOT BUT ADVERSELY AFFECT THE STATE
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OF SOVIET-U.S. RELATIONS. AUGUST 7, 1978, WASHINGTON, D.C.
CHRISTOPHER

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